

Appl. No. 10/601,378
Amdt. dated February 15, 2008
Reply to Office Action of August 15, 2007

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in this application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for detecting the presence of an analyte particle in a fluid, said method comprising, sequentially:

filtering a sample of said fluid from a first chamber to a second chamber through a filter sized to pass said analyte particle and particles smaller than said analyte particle, to remove-retaining in said first chamber particles in said sample larger than said analyte particle thereby forming in said second chamber a filtered sample;

adding to said filtered sample in said second chamber a reagent that specifically interacts with said analyte particle to form a reagent-analyte particle complex that is larger than said analyte particle;

filtering said filtered sample from said second chamber through a filter sized to pass to remove-particles from said sample that are smaller than said reagent-analyte particle complex thereby forming in said second chamber a further filtered sample;

testing said further filtered sample in said second chamber for the presence of residual particlesaid reagent-analyte-particle complex, wherein the presence of said residual particles identifies the presence of said reagent-analyte particle complex in said second chamber, and wherein the presence of said-analyte particle complex is indicative of to-detect-the presence of said analyte particle in said fluid and wherein the absence of said reagent-analyte particle complex in said second chamber is indicative of the absence of said analyte particle in said fluid.

2. (original) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said fluid is a biological fluid.

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3. (original) A method in accordance with claim 2, wherein said biological fluid is blood.
4. (original) A method in accordance with claim 3, wherein said analyte particle is human immunodeficiency virus.
5. (original) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said analyte particle is a virus.
6. (canceled)
7. (previously presented) A method in accordance with claim 4, wherein said reagent is truncated CD4 glycoprotein.
8. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein said filtering is performed using micro-injected molded plastic.
9. (canceled)
10. (canceled)
11. (canceled)
12. (canceled)
13. (canceled)
14. (canceled)
15. (canceled)

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16. (canceled)

17. (canceled)

18. (canceled)

19. (canceled)

20. (canceled)

21. (canceled)

22. (currently amended) A method for detecting the presence of human immunodeficiency virus in a fluid, said method comprising sequentially:
filtering a sample of said fluid from a first chamber to a second chamber through a filter sized to pass said human immunodeficiency virus and particles smaller than said human immunodeficiency virus, to remove retaining in said first chamber particles in said sample larger than said human immunodeficiency virus thereby forming in said second chamber a filtered sample;

adding to said filtered sample in said second chamber a reagent that specifically interacts with said human immunodeficiency virus to form a reagent-human immunodeficiency virus complex that is larger than human immunodeficiency virus;

filtering said filtered sample from said second chamber through a filter sized to pass to remove particles from said sample that are smaller than said reagent-human immunodeficiency virus complex thereby forming in said second chamber a further filtered sample;

testing said further filtered sample in said second chamber for the presence of residual particlesaid reagent-human immunodeficiency virus complex, wherein the

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presence of said residual particles identifies the presence of said reagent-human immunodeficiency virus complex in said second chamber, and wherein the presence of said reagent-human immunodeficiency virus complex is indicative of to detect the presence of said human immunodeficiency virus in said fluid and wherein the absence of said reagent-human immunodeficiency virus complex in said second chamber is indicative of the absence of said human immunodeficiency virus in said fluid.

23. (previously presented) A method in accordance with claim 22, wherein said reagent is truncated CD4 glycoprotein.
24. (previously presented) A method in accordance with claim 23, wherein said fluid is a biological fluid.
25. (previously presented) A method in accordance with claim 24, wherein said biological fluid is blood.
26. (currently amended) A method for detecting the presence of human immunodeficiency virus in a fluid, said method comprising:
- filtering a sample of said fluid to remove all particles in said sample larger than said human immunodeficiency virus to form a filtered fluid;
- introducing said filtered fluid into a chamber;
- adding to said filtered fluid a reagent that provides a specific binding site for any human immunodeficiency virus in said filtered fluid to form a reagent-human immunodeficiency virus complex that is larger than said human immunodeficiency virus in said chamber;

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filtering said sample after said adding to remove particles from said chamber that are smaller than said reagent-human immunodeficiency virus complex to form a remaining sample in said chamber;

testing said remaining sample in said chamber for the presence of a residue of said reagent-human immunodeficiency virus complex, wherein the presence of said residue in said chamber identifies the presence of said human immunodeficiency virus within said fluid and wherein the absence of said residue in said chamber identifies the absence of said human immunodeficiency virus within said fluid.

27. (previously presented) A method in accordance with claim 26, wherein said reagent is truncated CD4 glycoprotein.
28. (previously presented) A method in accordance with claim 27, wherein said fluid is a biological fluid.
29. (previously presented) A method in accordance with claim 28, wherein said biological fluid is blood.